

## Message Text

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73

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20

TRSE-00 IGA-02 DODE-00 PC-04 L-03 SR-02 ORM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IO-13 RSR-01 /165 W

----- 110827

R 011600Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6789

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY

KFJCX/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 102

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 1540

JOINT STATE/AID ACTION

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: BELGIAN AIRDROP OF US SORGHUM

REF: NIAMEY 2375 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING, IN RESPONSE NIAMEY INQUIRY, ALSO  
BEING SENT INFO ADDRESSEES AS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST.

2. ANTICIPATE CONTINUING NEED USE OUR BAG STITCHING  
MACHINES HERE. CONSEQUENTLY UNABLE PROMISE TO  
RELEASE MACHINE TO YOU FOR PERIOD NEEDED, THOUGH  
MAY BE ABLE LEND YOU MACHINE FOR TWO DAYS.  
SUGGEST YOU PROCURE TWO OR THREE STITCHING MACHINES  
VIA AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS DIRECTLY FROM FISCHBEIN  
FACTORY AT DOLSS471 EACH PLUS NEEDLES AND THREAD  
PER BRUSSELS 4177, BEING REPEATED TO YOU.  
MAYBE BELGIANS COULD BRING DOWN FOR YOU ON

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NEXT FLIGHT. NEXT HERCULES SCHEDULED FOR

OUAGADOUGOU DUE TO ARRIVE HERE AUGUST 14.

3. FURTHER TESTS HAVE SHOWN THAT MUST USE THREE JUTE SACKS FOR FREE-FALL AIRDROP NO MATTER WHAT SURFACE, ALTITUDE, SPEED OR SYSTEM OF PALLETIZING. WE ARE PLACING 50 KG SORGHUM INSIDE THREE "HUNDRED-KILO" JUTE SACKS, SIZE 26-1/2 BY 44 INCHES. RESULTS ARE SATISFACTORY. IDEALLY BETTER HAVE INNER MOST SACK SLIGHTLY SMALLER AND OUTERMOST SACK LARGER, BUT NOT ESSENTIAL. WE HAVE WIRE-TIED SOME INNER SACKS, AND TESTS HAVE SHOWN THAT THIS IS ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE TO STITCHING, THOUGH SLOWER AND LEAVES LESS EXPANSION ROOM INSIDE. MUR TESTS SUGGEST PREFERABLE NOT USE WOVEN PLASTIC SACK PROVIDED WITH GRAIN AT ALL, SO WE SLASH SACKS WHILE PLACING IN FIRST JUTE. THIS IS LESS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IF DROPPING AT LOW LEVEL ON PALLETS. DECENT TEST-DROP OF NINE TONS FROM 200 FEET AT DJIBO HAD 84 PERCENT OF OUTER SACKS STILL WHOLE AFTER LANDING AND SOME OF REMAINDER RECOVERABLE. ULTRA-LOW LEVEL TEST DROP TODAY WITH ONE TON FROM SEVEN FEET ON LAZERITE AIRSTRIP HAD 90 PERCENT WHOLE INDR SACKS WITH ADDITIONAL FIVE PERCENT RECOVERABLE.

5. SWISS RED CROSS HAS OFFERED UP TO THIRTY TONS OF CIRCULAR-WOVEN WHITE JERSEY MATERIAL FOR SACKING. WE USED SAMPLE FOR A FEW INNER SACKS AT DJIBO, AND TENTATIVELY THINK IT MAY BE USEABLE FOR THAT. WE PLAN ANOTHER SMALL TEST WITH REMAINING SAMPLE. REP OF LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES HERE IS REQUESTING ONE TON (APPROX 9,000 LINEAR METERS); DEPENDING ON WHEN IT ARRIVES, MAY BE USED IN UPPER VOLTA OR NIGER.

6. WE HAVE OBTAINED HIGH QUALITY JUTE SACKS SIZE 26-1/2 BY 44 INCHSS FROM BAG FACTORY AT KUMASI, GHANA IN BALES OF 300 FOR DOLS 229.17. ON TWO WEEKS NOTICE, PLANT CAN MAKE SIZE 23 BY 34 INCHES FOR 81 PESAWAS EACH, OR SIZE 25 BY 38 INCHES FOR 72 PESAWAS EACH (115 PESAWAS EQUALS ONE DOL), AVAILABLE UNCLASSIFIED

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IN BALES OF 300. TESTS SHOW THESE NEW SACKS FAR SUPERIOR TO USED SJUTE SACKS AVAILABLE HERE LOCALLY. LARGE USED SUGAR SACKS OF SEMI-TWILL MATERIAL ARE SUPERIOR TO JUTE, BUT NOT AVAILABLE HERE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY.

7. IF YOU WOULD FIND IT USEFUL, WE MIGHT BE ABLE LOAN YOU SERVICES ONE OF OUR PCVS EXPERIENCED

IN BAGGING TECHNIQUES.EASUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, FAMINE, FOOD DROPS, SORGHUM  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 AUG 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** OUAGADOUGOU JOINT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730865/aaaabvnh.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION AID  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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